

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW SPECIES OF HABENARIA FROM CUBA.

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This species is closely allied to *Habenaria odontopetala*, Rchb. f. (Fig. 2.) of peninsular Florida, Mexico, Central America and Cuba. It grows in rich hillside woodlands, usually where there is considerable shade, flowering during the winter months. On November 9, 1902, I discovered a single specimen in bloom in the Province of Pinar del Rio, near Cayajabos, a town which was destroyed in the Cuban war; and on a second expedition to the same locality made in January, 1903, with Robert G. Leavitt, I found numerous plants, both in flower and in fruit. *Habenaria odontopetala* was common here though its season of bloom was practically at a close. However, many flowers were still in good condition, and made possible a careful comparative study of both species in the field.

***Habenaria Sanbornii*, sp. nov. (Fig. 1).**

Plants 2-8 dm. tall; roots fleshy, tubers short, elliptical or nearly so; leaves six to eight, quite rigid, dull gray-green, never glossy above, 5-20 cm. long, 2-3 cm. wide, lanceolate to narrowly elliptical, lower ones often obtuse, upper ones acute; cauline bracts lanceolate to lance-ovate, acuminate, acute; floral bracts similar, lower ones longer than the

ovaries; racemes 6–30 cm. long, loosely or densely flowered, flowers few or many (twelve to sixty), pedicels short, nearly erect; lateral sepals greenish, strongly deflexed, falcate, spreading, elliptic-oblong, mostly 3-nerved, 7 mm. long; upper sepal similar in color, nearly orbicular, 3-nerved, 4 mm. long; petals 4 mm. long, greenish-yellow, oblong, somewhat quadrangular, the angles obtuse, rounded, at the summit of each petal the main nerve terminates in an abrupt denticle, anterior basal angle slightly protuberant; lip 5 mm. long, yellowish, oblong-linear, pointed, quite straight, deflexed, margin rather revolute, base on either side obscurely obtuse angled, otherwise the lip is entire and regular; spur 10–12 mm. long,

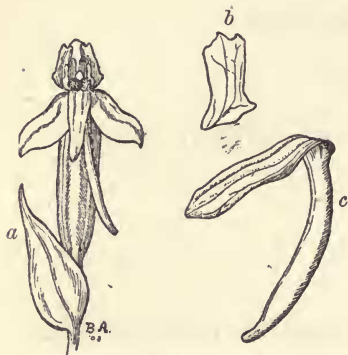


FIG. 1. *Habenaria Sanbornii* Ames
(a x 1½, b and c x 3).

slender, straight; stigmatic glands somewhat globular; ovary 11–12 mm. long, cylindrical, tapering to both ends.

Cuba: In vicinity of Cayajabos, Pinar del Rio. *Type* in Author's Herbarium, No. 519. January 29, 1903 (Leavitt and Ames).

Habenaria Sanbornii, does not appear in Wright's collections of Cuban plants so far as I have been able to ascertain, and up to this time I have not succeeded in identifying my material with any species of *Habenaria* hitherto described. Typical specimens have been placed in the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University.

The name of Edwin L. Sanborn, Jr., through whose kindness and hospitality I was enabled to make a considerable collection and study of Cuban orchids, is associated with this species.



FIG. 2. *Habenaria odontopetala* Rehb. (a x 1½, b and c x 3).